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U.S. And Libya Sign Sister Laboratory Arrangement

U.S.-Libya Scientific Cooperation Will Pursue Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy

TRIPOLI -- Libya's National Bureau of Research and Development and the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) Sister Laboratory program signed an arrangement today that establishes a foundation for new scientific cooperation.

This Sister Laboratory Arrangement demonstrates the commitment of the United States and Libya to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy in accordance with the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT). The Arrangement is a result of ongoing collaboration involving the United States, the United Kingdom, and Libya, following Libya's historic decision to dismantle its weapons of mass destruction programs.

Scientists from the laboratories of the two organizations say they look forward to beginning joint activities under this program, which will focus on research reactor applications, including nuclear medicine, and other applied scientific endeavors. U.S. laboratories currently involved are Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Los Alamos National Laboratory and Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Established by Congress in 2000, NNSA is a semi-autonomous agency within the U.S. Department of Energy responsible for maintaining and enhancing the safety, security, reliability and performance of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile without nuclear testing; working to reduce global danger from weapons of mass destruction; providing the U.S. Navy with safe and effective nuclear propulsion; and responding to nuclear and radiological emergencies in the U.S. and abroad.

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